CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended)

A printing method employing a planographic printing plate material capable of being developed on a printing press, the method comprising the steps of:

imagewise exposing a planographic printing plate material comprising a support, and provided thereon, an image formation layer containing hydrophobic precursor particles;

developing the exposed planographic printing plate material with dampening water ~~and/or~~ or both dampening water and printing ink to obtain a printing plate, the dampening water being re-circulated for re-use and filtered with a filter during re-circulation; and

carrying out printing employing the resulting printing plate.

Claim 2 (Original)

The printing method of claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic precursor particles are thermoplastic particles or microcapsules encapsulating oleophilic materials therein.

4

Claim 3 (Original)

The printing method of claim 1, wherein a filtration accuracy of the filter is not more than the average particle size of the hydrophobic precursor particles.

Claim 4 (Original)

The printing method of claim 1, wherein the filter employs an adsorption ability due to zeta potential, whereby the dampening water is filtered.

Claim 5 (Original)

The printing method of claim 1, wherein the filter employs an ultrafiltration method, whereby the dampening water is filtered.

Claim 6 (Original)

The printing method of claim 1, wherein the imagewise exposing is carried out employing an infrared laser installed in a printing press.

Claim 7 (Original)

The printing method of claim 1, wherein the image formation layer contains the hydrophobic precursor particles in an amount of from 5 to 100% by weight.

5

Claim 8 (Original)

The method of claim 1, wherein the image formation layer further contains a water soluble resin.

Claim 9 (Original)

The method of claim 8, wherein the water soluble resin is oligosaccharide.

Claim 10 (Original)

The method of claim 9, wherein the oligosaccharide is trehalose.